

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/010,657

Applicant(s)

ALTHIN ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Liang-che Alex Wang

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 7/5/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3 and 5-19.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. Claims 1-3, 5-19 are allowed.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Hwa Lee on 7/16/2007.
4. The application has been amended as follow:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A mobile guide communications system comprising:
 - a portable device including a display, an infra-red communication unit, and a wireless communication unit;
 - a plurality of object servers, each object server associated with an object and including an infrared communication unit configured to communicate with the portable device[[s]]; and
 - a central server including a wireless communication unit, the central server being configured to retrieve data embodying information concerning a selected object and to transmit the data to ~~a particular~~ the portable device via the wireless communication unit in response to a request by the ~~particular~~ portable device, wherein the central server is further configured to retrieve the data from a database

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based on an object identification code, separate from the retrieved data, included in the request;

wherein the portable device further comprises processing circuitry configured to obtain the object identification code from an object server associated with the selected object, to transmit the object identification code to the central server, to obtain, from the central server, the retrieved data concerning the selected object, and to present the obtained data to a user.

2. **(Previously Presented)** The system of claim 1, wherein the display is configured to display at least one of a multimedia presentation, a text display, a graphics display and an audio presentation.
3. **(Original)** The system of claim 1, wherein the portable device further comprises an internet connection.
4. **(Cancelled)** ~~The system of claim 1, wherein the portable device further comprises processing circuitry configured to obtain the object identification code from an object server, to transmit the object identification code to the central server, to obtain, from the central server, information concerning the selected object, and to present the information to a user.~~
5. **(Previously Presented)** The system of claim 1, wherein the object server further comprises a memory including the object identification code associated with the selected object, and software code for causing the object server to transfer the object identification code in response to a request from a portable device.
6. **(Original)** The system of claim 5, wherein the object server operates in a wait mode until communications are established with a portable device.
7. **(Original)** The system of claim 5, wherein the object server is located within a predetermined distance from its associated specific object.

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8. **(Previously Presented)** The system of claim 1, wherein the central server includes:

a database including information associated with different objects at an exhibition; and

the object identification code associated with each object.
9. **(Previously Presented)** The system of claim 8, wherein the central server further comprises software for causing the central server to receive the request for information concerning the selected object.
10. **(Previously Presented)** The system of claim 9, wherein the central server is configured for internet access, and wherein the central server further comprises software adapted for causing a terminal client to:

obtain the object identification code from the object server associated with the selected object, when the terminal is in range of an infrared communications unit of the object server associated with the selected object;

obtain the requested object information from the central server; and

present the obtained information.
11. **(Currently Amended)** A method in a mobile guide system comprising:

establishing an infrared connection between a mobile terminal and an object server associated with a specific object;

transferring an object identification code associated with the specific object from the object server to the mobile terminal over the infrared connection;

establishing a wireless connection between the mobile terminal and a central server;

transferring the object identification code to the central server via the wireless connection, wherein the object identification code is included in a request for data that embodies information concerning the specific object;

retrieving the requested data that embodies information about the specific object from a database accessible by the central server based on the object identification code, wherein the requested data is separate from the identification code;

transferring the retrieved data that embodies information to the mobile terminal; and

presenting the information on a display of the mobile terminal.

12. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 11, wherein the presenting the information comprises presenting at least one of an Internet link, a multimedia display, a text display, a graphics display and an audio presentation.

13. **(Currently Amended)** A machine-accessible medium having encoded thereon instructions for causing a machine to:

establish an infrared connection between a portable device and an object server associated with a selected object;

obtain an object identification code associated with the selected object from [[an]] the object server associated with the selected object;

establish a wireless connection between the portable device and a central server;

transmit the obtained object identification code to [[a]] the central server over the wireless connection, wherein the object identification code is included in a request for data that embodies information concerning an object associated with the object identification code;

enable the central server to retrieve the requested data that embodies information about the selected object from a database accessible by the central server based on the object identification code that is separate from the retrieved data;

receive from the central server, the requested data that is separate from the transmitted object identification code; and

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display the received information for a user of ~~[[a]]the~~ portable device.

14. **(Previously Presented)** The medium of claim 13, further comprising instructions for causing the portable device to display the information as one of a multimedia presentation, a graphics presentation, a text display, and an audio presentation.

15. **(Currently Amended)** A computer-readable medium having stored thereon instructions for causing a digital processing system to perform operations comprising:

establishing an infrared connection between a portable device and an object server associated with a selected object;

obtaining an object identification code associated with the selected object from ~~[[an]] the~~ object server associated with the selected object;

establishing a wireless connection between the portable device and a central server;

transmitting the obtained object identification code to ~~[[a]] the~~ central server over the wireless connection, the object identification code causing retrieval of information concerning ~~[[an]]the selected~~ object associated with the object identification code, wherein the information is retrieved from a database accessible by the central server;

receiving the retrieved data that embodies information concerning the selected object, wherein the received data is separate from the object identification code; and

displaying the information on a display of ~~[[a]]the~~ portable device.

16. **(Original)** The medium of claim 15, further comprising instructions to cause the portable device to display the information as one of a multimedia presentation, a graphics presentation, a text display, and an audio presentation.

17. **(Previously Presented)** The medium of claim 15, further comprising instructions to cause the machine to obtain the object identification code from the object server over an infra-red link.

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18. **(Previously Presented)** The medium of claim 15, further comprising instructions to cause the machine to transmit the object identification code over a wireless link to the central server.

19. **(Currently Amended)** A mobile guide communications system comprising:

a portable device for communicating information concerning a selected object to a user, the portable device including a display, an infra-red communication unit, and a wireless communication unit;

a plurality of object servers, each object server associated with an object and including an infrared communication unit configured to communicate with the portable device[[s]]; and

a central server including a wireless communication unit, the central server being configured to retrieve data that embodies information concerning ~~[[a]]~~the selected object and to transmit the information to ~~a particular~~ the portable device via the wireless communication unit in response to a request by the ~~particular~~ portable device, wherein the central server is further configured to retrieve the data from a database based on an object identification code, separate from the retrieved data, included in the request;


wherein the portable device further comprises processing circuitry configured to obtain the object identification code from an object server associated with the selected object, to transmit the object identification code to the central server, to obtain, from the central server, the retrieved data concerning the selected object, and to present the obtained data to a user.

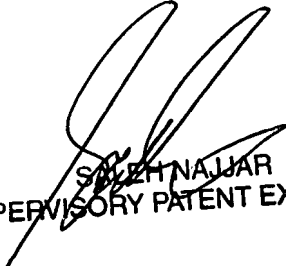
Reason for allowance

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record does not teach a central server including a wireless communication unit, the central server being configured to retrieve data embodying information concerning a selected object and to transmit the data to a portable device via the wireless communication unit in response to a request by the portable device, wherein the central server is further configured to retrieve the data from a database based on an object identification code, separate from the retrieved data, included in the request; wherein the portable device further comprises processing circuitry configured to obtain the object identification code from an object server associated with the selected object, to transmit the object identification code to the central server, to obtain, from the central server, the retrieved data concerning the selected object, and to present the obtained data to a user, in lights of other limitation described in independent claims 1, 11, 13, 15 and 19.
6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Liang-che Alex Wang whose telephone number is (571)272-3992. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

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8. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571)272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.
9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Liang-che Alex Wang 
July 18, 2007


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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER